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PATENT
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 040894-7167

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Toshio SHIMIZU et al.) Confirmation No.: 3575
Application No.: 10/522,178) Group Art Unit: 3721
Filed: January 24, 2005) Examiner: B. Nash
For: STAPLER AND CARTRIDGE) **Mail Stop Amendment**

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Window
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(c), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the document listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the events recited in § 1.97(b) but, to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of either a Final Action or a Notice of Allowance.

The document listed in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in an Office Action dated November 3, 2006 from the Chinese Patent Office in a counterpart Chinese application. A copy of the Office Action and an English-language translation is attached. Therefore, no fee is necessary for the filing.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed document and evidence that consideration of relevant portions thereof by making appropriate notations on the attached PTO Form 1449.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "Prior Art." If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do not constitute "Prior Art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

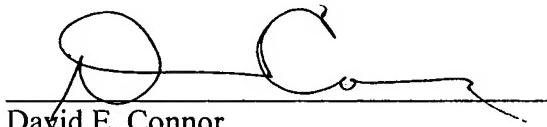
Except for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required,

including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-0310. This paragraph is intended to be a **CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME** in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

By:


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Dated: January 17, 2007

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary) PTO Form 1449 PAGE 1 of 1			Attorney Docket No. : 040894-7167	Application No.: 10/522,178			
			Applicants: Toshio SHIMIZU et al.				
			Filing Date: January 24, 2005	Confirmation No.: 3575 Group Art Unit: 3721			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation YES NO
		CN 1053213A	July 24, 1991	China			Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
Examiner				Date Considered			
Examiner:		Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.					